

**SECRET**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

MFG. 1.72

CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEM BY

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CABLE SECRETARIAT ROUTING: EXDIS, BACKGROUND USE ONLY: FILE CS/RF, DCI,  
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NNNNVV EIA995LAN386  
RR RUEAIIB  
ZNY SSSSS ZOC STATE ZZH  
LDN085  
RR RUEHC RUFHGV  
DE RUDTC #1543 3351745  
ZNY SSSSS ZZH  
R 301645Z NOV 72  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7164  
INFO RUFHGV/USDEL SALT GENEVA 2321  
BT  
SECRET LONDON 11543

83583

EXDIS

SUBJECT: SALT: BRITISH PRESS FOR EARLY NAC CONSULTATION ON FBS

1. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS NOV 28 WITH PEREZ (INR/RSG),  
BRITISH OFFICIALS FROM FCO, MOD, AND CABINET OFFICE  
STRESSED REPEATEDLY THEIR GROWING APPREHENSION THAT  
TIMETABLE FOR SALT II COULD DEVELOP IN WAY WHICH MIGHT  
PRECLUDE ADEQUATE NAC CONSULTATION ON FBS. FCO ASST  
UNDERSEY ROSE IN PARTICULAR EXPRESSED HMG'S CONCERN  
THAT US DO UTMOST TO ENSURE THAT NATO ALLIES ARE ABLE  
TO PROVIDE TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE INPUT ON ISSUE WHICH  
IS VITAL TO EUROPEAN INTERESTS.

2. ROSE HAS BEEN WORRIED FOR SOME TIME ABOUT ENSURING  
THAT SALT II SCENARIO INCLUDES THOROUGH AND TIMELY  
NAC DISCUSSIONS OF FBS, AND HAS BEEN DILIGENT IN RE-  
MINDING US OF IMPORTANCE BRITS ATTACH TO PROBLEM. HE NOW  
SEEMS MORE SPECIFICALLY CONCERNED WITH POSSIBILITY THAT  
BREZHNEV VISIT TO US COULD REQUIRE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF  
SUBSTANTIVE US POSITIONS WITHOUT BENEFIT OF CONSIDERED ALLIED  
JUDGEMENTS. HE ASKED THAT WE ALERT WASHINGTON TO UK  
CONCERN ON THIS SCORE. XGDS-1. ANNENBERG

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